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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/911,309	07/23/2001	Toru Yamada	P/1878-173	3613
2352	7590	07/01/2004	EXAMINER	
OSTROLENK FABER GERB & SOFFEN 1180 AVENUE OF THE AMERICAS NEW YORK, NY 100368403			RAO, ANAND SHASHIKANT	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2613	6
DATE MAILED: 07/01/2004				

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	09/911,309	YAMADA, TORU
	Examiner Andy S. Rao	Art Unit 2613

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 14 May 2004.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-8 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-8 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) All b) Some * c) None of:
1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____. |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>3-5</u> . | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____. |

DETAILED ACTION

Specification

1. The lengthy specification has not been checked to the extent necessary to determine the presence of all possible minor errors. Applicant's cooperation is requested in correcting any errors of which applicant may become aware in the specification.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

The changes made to 35 U.S.C. 102(e) by the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA) and the Intellectual Property and High Technology Technical Amendments Act of 2002 do not apply when the reference is a U.S. patent resulting directly or indirectly from an international application filed before November 29, 2000. Therefore, the prior art date of the reference is determined under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) prior to the amendment by the AIPA (pre-AIPA 35 U.S.C. 102(e)).

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3. Claims 1-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Fimoff (US Patent: 6,665,344).

Fimoff discloses a variable resolution decoder for decoding image data compressed with a compression method such as MPEG-2 (Fimoff: figure 10), said decoder comprising: means for performing variable length decoding and inverse quantization on the compressed image data (Fimoff: column 8, lines 45-50); means for checking a discrete transform mode of a frame and performing inverse discrete cosine transform in 4x8 pixels when the mode is a discrete cosine transform mode (Fimoff: column 8, lines 52-56); and means for acquiring image data of full resolution for interlaced scanning in a vertical direction and thinning interlaced scanned image data to perform image reduction processing during decoding with field information maintained (Fimoff: column 9, lines 32-65), as in claim 1.

Fimoff discloses a variable resolution decoder for decoding image data compressed with a compression method such as MPEG-2 (Fimoff: figure 10), said decoder comprising: means for performing variable length decoding and inverse quantization on the compressed image data (Fimoff: column 8, lines 45-50); means for checking a discrete transform mode of a frame and performing reduction processing in a discrete cosine transform area (Fimoff: column 8, lines 52-56) for resolution of interlaced scanning in horizontal direction (Fimoff: column 10, lines 48-65); means for performing reduction processing in a pixel area for resolution of interlaced scanning in a vertical direction (Fimoff: column 9, lines 32-65), as in claim 2.

Regarding claims 3-4, Fimoff discloses performing reduction processing using a field inverse discrete cosine transform processing means and a frame inverse discrete cosine transform

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processing means in respective field and frame modes (Fimoff: column 9, lines 10-27), as in the claims.

Fimoff discloses a variable resolution decoder for decoding image data compressed with a compression method such as MPEG-2 (Fimoff: figure 10), said decoder comprising: means for performing variable length decoding and inverse quantization on the compressed image data (Fimoff: column 8, lines 45-50); means for selecting a discrete cosine transform mode (Fimoff: column 8, lines 54-55); means for checking a discrete transform mode of a frame and performing inverse discrete cosine transform in 4x8 pixels when the mode is a discrete cosine transform mode (Fimoff: column 8, lines 52-56); and means for acquiring image data of full resolution for interlaced scanning in a vertical direction and thinning interlaced scanned image data (Fimoff: column 9, lines 32-65); wherein the image data is decoded such that the image has lowered resolution at the time of display (Fimoff: column 4, lines 8-30), as in claim 5.

Fimoff discloses a variable resolution decoder for decoding image data compressed with a compression method such as MPEG-2 (Fimoff: figure 10), said decoder comprising: means for performing variable length decoding and inverse quantization on the compressed image data (Fimoff: column 8, lines 45-50); means for checking a discrete transform mode of a frame and performing inverse discrete cosine transform in 4x8 pixels when the mode is a discrete cosine transform mode (Fimoff: column 8, lines 52-56); and means for acquiring image data of full resolution for interlaced scanning in a vertical direction and thinning interlaced scanned image data (Fimoff: column 9, lines 32-65); wherein the image data is decoded such that the image has lowered resolution at the time of display (Fimoff: column 4, lines 8-30), as in claim 6.

Regarding claims 7-8, Fimoff discloses taking only even numbered lines of said interlaced scanned image data and calculates the averages of two adjacent taken lines which are used as data of the top field, and takes only odd-numbered lines of said interlaced scanned image data and calculates the averages of two adjacent taken lines which are used as data of the bottom field to decode the image data at halved resolutions both vertically and horizontally with field information maintained (Fimoff: column 8, lines 59-67; column 9, lines 1-10), as in the claims.

Conclusion

4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Panusopone discloses a video size conversion and transcoding from MPEG-2 to MPEG-4. Youn discloses a transcoding apparatus and method. Yonemitsu discloses a method and system for encoding and decoding picture signals. Saha discloses a system and method for low delay mode operation video decoding. Tahara discloses an encoding method and encoding method of a color signal component of picture signal having plurality resolutions. Fimoff discloses a down converting MPEG encoded HD sequences to lower resolution with reduced memory in decoder loop. Boyce discloses method and apparatus for decoding and displaying HDTV and SDTV. Sato discloses a picture decoding method and apparatus. Zhong discloses detection and proper scaling of interlaced moving areas in MPEG-2 compressed video.

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Andy S. Rao whose telephone number is (703)-305-4813. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 8 hours.

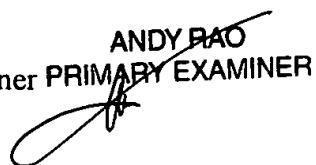
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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Chris S. Kelley can be reached on (703)-305-4856. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Andy S. Rao

Primary Examiner **PRIMARY EXAMINER**
Art Unit 2613



asr
June 24, 2004